April 20, 2017



## **CAMERON RUN PARK PLANNING**

#### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

NOVA Parks requested an extension of their current lease at Cameron Run Park In the fall of 2014. The request was made to the Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities (RPCA) who informed the Park & Recreation Commission of the proposed extension. On January 15, 2015, the Commission approved the Cameron Run Recreational Area Coordinated Park and Open Space Plan. This plan took into account the current and future needs of City residents as well as a needs assessment conducted by RPCA and public comment. NOVA Parks' lease was not recommended for extension by the Commission at that time.



The City discussed a lease extension for the Cameron Run Regional Park again in 2016 and held a City Council Public Hearing on Saturday, June 18, 2016 to receive input on a new (replacement) lease for the Cameron Run Regional Park for a period of twenty (20) years ending in 2036. The current lease between the City and the NOVA Parks expires in 2021.

City Council deferred action and directed staff to develop a planning process, to consider alternative uses at the park, and to bring that process back to Council for consideration.

Michael Baker International's Urban Design Studio is assisting the City in determining the highest and best use for Cameron Run Park site. The City will determine highest and best use based on community input and evaluations that include use needs, economic, and environmental factors. Only park related uses for the future of the site which is in line with its current zoning of Public Open Space (POS) will be included. Public engagement is currently being conducted for the project. A project calendar and summary of the input received though stakeholder meetings, community meetings, park walks, attendance at community events, and the first of two planned online surveys is shown below. Input received so far includes meeting feedback, emails and over 450 survey responses and has provided a wealth of information to the Team

#### **Community Meetings & Activities**

Large format public meetings where individuals and stakeholder groups come together to share the ideas that are generated from the smaller scale stakeholder meetings.

- City Council Final Report & Recommendation September 2017
- Park & Recreation Commission Public Hearing June 15, 2017 at 7 p.m.
- City of Alexandria Earth Day Celebration April 29, 2017 at 10 a.m. Lenny Harris Memorial Fields







#### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

#### Community Meetings Continued:

- Community Meeting #2 April 27, 2017 at 7 p.m. 2900 Business Center Dr.
- City Council Oral Report April 25, 2017 at 7 p.m. City Council Chambers
- Park & Recreation Commission Update April 20, 2017 at 7 p.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt at Cameron Station Park April 13, 2017 at 11 a.m. Cameron Run Park
- WALK & TALK Walking Tour around Cameron Run Park April 1, 2017 at 9 a.m.
- Alexandria Beautification Commission March 9, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.Durant Arts Center
- Community Meeting #1 March 2, 2017 at 7 p.m.Beatley Central Library





#### **Stakeholder Meetings**

Smaller scale meetings with stakeholder groups in preparation for our larger format public meetings

- Youth Sports Advisory Committee April 10, 2017 at 7 p.m. Mt. Vernon Recreation Center
- Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations March 29, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.Chet & Sabra Avery Conference Room
- Gina Baum and Judy Coleman Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission 2x2 -March 29 3:30 p.m.
- Jennifer Atkins and Jesse O'Connell Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission 2x2 - March 28 4:45 p.m.
- Alexandria Tree Stewards March 27, 2017 at 7 p.m. Offices of Michael Baker International Urban Design Studio
- Alexandria Soccer Association March 8, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. Lee Center
- Eisenhower Partnership Stakeholder Meeting February 21, 2017 at 7 p.m Offices of Michael Baker International Urban Design Studio, 3601 Eisenhower Ave.
- Radhika Mohan, City of Alexandria Planning & Zoning, (Eisenhower West Plan) February 16, 2017 City Hall
- Jennifer Atkins, Chair, Park & Recreation Commission December 9, 2016 Offices of Michael Baker International
- Paul Gilbert, Executive Director, NOVA Parks December 8, 2016 Offices of Michael Baker International









#### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

#### Meetings - Main Input Themes:

Stakeholder Meeting 1 - Eisenhower Partnership (business community) and Townes at Cameron Parke (townhouse development) - March 2, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. - Offices of Michael Baker International Urban Design Studio

- Northeast corner of site is a mess, weedy, dumping ground, unmaintained
- How can some of the considerable profit from Cameron Run Regional Park be used to benefit Alexandria?
- Parking problems at Cameron Run Regional Park in summer people park in townhouse community.
- Park maintenance vegetation and structures need improvement

Community Meeting 1 - March 2, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. - Beatley Library

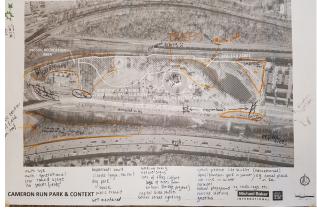
- Need more year-round use for park
- Need to connect Hensley Park with Cameron Run Park safely
- Concern about vegetation maintenance in Park and around Lake Cook
- Organized sports teams need more spaces within Alexandria for team sports
- Current water park is unique, special, and very well attended an asset that can be improved
- Need a park space for passive uses

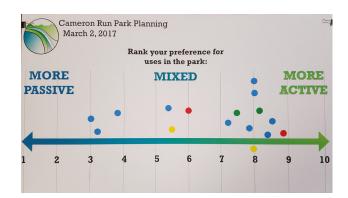
Stakeholder Meeting 2 - Alexandria Beautification Commission - March 9, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. Durant Arts Center

- Kids love the existing park, parents feel that it needs better maintenance.
- More money generated at the park should be allocated to maintenance.
- Competing bids for the park would encourage better level of maintenance and a higher lease payment.

WALK & TALK - Walking Tour around Cameron Run Park Area - April 1, 2017 at 9 a.m.

- Concern about protecting and preserving the woodlot being called "Ward's Woods."
- Would like walking trails through the eastern woodlot.
- Concern about quality of park and facility maintenance, especially in the northeast corner of the lot.













## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Stakeholder Meeting 3 - Alexandria Tree Stewards - March 27, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Offices of Michael Baker International Urban Design Studio

- Preserve as many trees as possible.
- Preserve native plant communities rather than developing it for active use like many other parks already are.
- More responsibility for NOVA Parks in maintaining the natural resources and natural areas on the property.
- Better maintenance overall.
- Make Lake Cook a more prominent part of Cameron Run Park.

Stakeholder Meeting 4 - Federation of Civic Associations -- March 29, 2017 Alexandria City Hall,

 Some committee members were confused about the events that lead to the current planning process. The presentation clarified the project history and timeline and clarified the goals of the process.

Stakeholder Meeting 5 - Youth Sports Advisorry Committee - April 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Mount Vernon Park Recreation Center

- More money could be spent on upgrading existing sports fields if the city weren't spending it on the NOVA Parks allocation.
- An indoor sports facility would generate year-round use and support the growing sports programs without the risk of over-use.

Easter Egg Hunt at Cameron Run Park - April 13, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

- Most people have not been to Cameron Run
- Toddler programing
- Would like to bring own food to the park













## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

#### **Survey 1 Summary**

476 survey respondents

90.3% of respondents have attended park

72.4% of respondents attended last year

#### Hearing lots of existing use of:

- Waterpark / Swimming
- Mini Golf, Batting Cages
- Batting Cages
- Fishing

#### Hearing the need for improvement of:

- Parking
- Maintenance
- Batting Cages

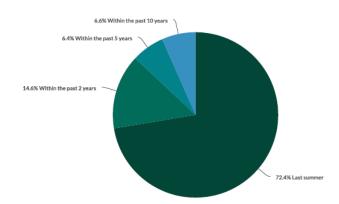
#### Hearing the need for more:

- Open Space
- Swimming/Swim Programs
- Walking Trails

#### Also hearing about:

- The unique draw of Waterpark
- Re-visiting the NOVA Parks Lease

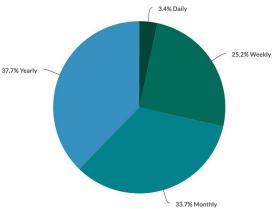
#### How recently have you visited Cameron Run Park?



Value	Percent	Responses
Last summer	72.4%	307
Within the past 2 years	14.6%	62
Within the past 5 years	6.4%	27
Within the past 10 years	6.6%	28

Total: 424

#### How Often do you visit Cameron Run Park?



#### What do you do at Cameron Run Park?



#### Representative Responses:

- Visit the water park / swim
- Mini golf
- Batting Cages
- Walking / jogging / riding bikes
- Fishing







## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

What are your impressions about Cameron Run Park - what works?



#### Representative Responses:

- "Everything"
- Location
- Waterpark
- Staff
- Enjoy Open Space
- Convenient, family-oriented, economical, fun

#### What does not work?



#### Representative Responses:

- "Nothing"
- Existing Parking
- [need to] update facilities/equipment
- Waterpark cleanliness
- Maintenance

#### What could be improved?



#### Representative Responses:

- Parking
- Nothing
- Everything
- Adding swim areas
- More water slides
- Food
- Year round use
- Cleanliness and safety







#### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

In the future, what activities do you do and/or need more of?



#### Representative Responses:

- All year recreational facilities like an indoor pool, trails, open common areas
- I like it the way it is, we couldn't fit much more fun. We're always exhausted. One day I'd like to putt putt if we have the stamina.
- I would like a year-round aquatic facility with exercise rooms, like Chinquapin, and outdoor play equipment for all ages, like Potomac Yards Park. I would like wooded trails in the restricted space, and a connection with the facilities at Hensley as well.

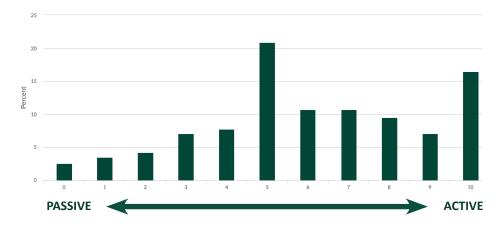
What future uses do you envision in the Park? (Example: sports, swim opportunities, social programs, etc.)



#### Representative Responses:

- A mix of spaces perhaps renovate waterpark, expand jogging trails around park, and improve parking lot aesthetics and signage
- I envision a community oriented park that includes swimming lessons/events, sports competitions, and community gatherings.
- create an aquatics center for the city an indoor competition pool with amenities could be used for swim meets as well as lessons to complement the outdoor water park and surround it all with great walking trails; make the playground usable all year & convert the water park into fun pop up uses in the off season (pop up ice rink? pop up holiday art & craft market?)

Rank your preference for use types in the Park. (Passive: Hiking, walking, fishing, birdwarching, etc.; Active: Organized sports,









## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

How did we communicate to the community about the survey?



- CITY WEBSITE
- **DIRECT EMAILS TO STAKEHOLDERS**

FLYERS IN LOCAL STORES, APARTMENT COMPLEXES AND COMMUNITY **CENTERS** 

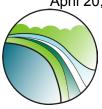
- **FACEBOOK**
- LINKEDIN











## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

## Flyer Distribution List

Fiyer Distribution List								
Apartme	Apartment Complexes							
	Name	Address	Phone	Status				
1	The Pavilion at Mark Center	5708 Merton Court	(703)-578-7850	flyer hung				
2	Willow Run	935 N Van Dorn Street #200	(703)-578-7840	flyer prohibited				
3	The Point at Alexandria	205 Century Place	(703)-370-7200	flyer hung				
4	EOS-21 Apartments	140 S Van Dorn Street	(703)-879-6123	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
5	Landmark Terrace Apartments	5803 Edsall Road	(703)-751-7733	flyer hung				
6	Cascade at Landmark Apartments	300 Yoakum Parkway	(703)-461-3636	flyer hung				
7	101 North Ripley Apartments	101 N Ripley Street	(703)-751-2660	flyer awaiting approval				
8	The Reserve at Eisenhower Apartments	5000 Eisenhower West	(703)-751-4100	flyer hung				
9	Carlyle Towers	2121 Jamieson Avenue	(703)-567-2151	flyer prohibited				
10	Carlyle Mill Apartments	2201 Mill Road	(703)-739-0557	flyer awaiting approval				
11	800 Carlyle	800 John Carlyle Street	(703)-794-2086	flyer not hung - email sent				
12	Post Carlyle Square	501 Holland Lane	(703)-519-7678	flyer awaiting approval				
13	Heritage at Old Town	431 S Columbus Street	(571) 451-0287	flyer awaiting approval				
Condomi	inium Complexes							
	Name	Address	Phone	Status				
14	Exchange at Van Dorn	4840 Eisenhower Avenue	(703)-461-4747	flyer hung				
Grocery	Stores							
•	Name	Address	Phone	Status				
15	Whole Foods Market	1700 Duke Street	(703)-706-0891	flyer awaiting approval				
16	Safeway	299 Van Dorn Street	(7030-751-4827	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
17	Giant	5730 Edsall Road	(703)-370-4856	flyer hung				
18	Giant	3131 Duke Street	(703)-461-6198	flyer hung				
19	Harris Teeter	4641 Duke Street	(703)-461-7082	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
20	Aldi	4600 Duke Street	not listed	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
21	The Fresh Market	3680 King Street	(703)-824-5205	flyer hung				
22	Safeway	3526 King Street	(571)-312-0029	flyer awaiting approval				
23	Trader Joes	612 N St. Asaph Street	(703)-548-0611	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
24	Harris Teeter	735 N St. Asaph Street	(703)-416-3837	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
25	Safeway	500 S Royal Street	(703)-836-0380	flyer hung				
26	Balducci's	600 Franklin Street	(703)-549-6611	flyer hung				
27	Aldi	425 E Monroe Avenue	(855)-955-2534	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
28	Giant	621 E Glebe Road	(703)-518-4797	flyer prohibited				
29	Target	3101 Jeffeson Davis Highway	(703)-706-3840	flyer prohibited, left for staff				
		5252 Jeneson Bavis Highway	(700) 700 0040					
Recreation	on centers	Addison	Dhara	Chahara				
20	Name	Address	Phone	Status				
30	Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility	3210 King Street	(703)-746-5553	flyer hung				
31	Charles Houston Recreation Center	901 Wythe Street	(703)-746-5552	flyer hung				
33	Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center	5750 Sanger Avenue	(703)-746-5559	flyer hung				
34	Nannie J. Lee - Therapeudic Recreation	1108 Jefferson Street	(703)-746-5550	flyer hung				
2.5	Tauranda Fantauri Aut Cantau	10E Union Ctroot	(702) 746 4570	fluor hung				



35

36

Torpedo Factory Art Center

Mount Vernon Recreation Center



flyer hung

flyer hung

105 Union Street

2701 Commonwealth Avenue

(703)-746-4570

(703)-746-5556



# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Coffee Shops							
	Name	Address	Phone	Status			
37	Starbucks	5782 Dow Ave	(571)-447-7211	flyer hung			
38	St. Elmo's Coffee Pub	2300 Mt Vernon Avenue	(703)-739-9268	flyer hung			
Gyms							
	Name	Address	Phone	Status			
39	OneLife Fitness	305 Hooffs Run Drive	(571)-317-1600	flyer hung			
40	YMCA	420 E Monroe Avenue	(703)-838-8085	flyer hung			
Hotels							
	Name	Address	Phone	Status			
41	Springhill Suites by Marriott	2950 Eisenhower Avenue	(703)-317-0013	flyer not hung - email sent			
42	Courtyard by Marriott	2700 Eisenhower Avenue	(703)-329-2323	flyer not hung - email sent			
43	Holiday Inn Alexandria - Carlyle	2460 Eisenhower Avenue	(703)-960-2000	flyer not hung - email sent			



